

**Chambers of Chief Judge Joseph F. Bataillon**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 3259, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7302 Fax: (402) 661-7306  
E-mail: Bataillon@ned.uscourts.gov



**Joseph F. Bataillon**  
Chief Judge

Date of Birth: 1949  
Education: Creighton 1971 BA, 1974 JD  
Began Service: October 1997  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton  
Political Affiliation: Democrat

**Government:** Deputy Public Defender, Office of the Public Defender,  
County of Douglas, Nebraska (1974-1980)

**Legal Practice:** Trial Attorney, Emil F. Sodoro P.C. (1980); Trial Attorney,  
Sodoro, Johnson, Daly, Stave, Cavel & Coffey (1980-1981); Trial  
Attorney, Sodoro, Daly & Sodoro (1981-1997)

**Military Service:** United States Army Reserve, United States Department of  
the Army (1971-1986)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; Judicial Division,  
American Bar Association; Federal Bar Association; Nebraska State Bar  
Association; Omaha Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Melinda G. Hess** ..... (402) 661-7304  
E-mail: melinda\_hess@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Creighton 1982 JD  
Law Clerk **Maira White Kennedy** ..... (402) 661-7409  
E-mail: maira\_kennedy@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Creighton 1983 JD  
Law Clerk **Mary K. Nagle** ..... (402) 661-7314  
E-mail: mary\_nagle@ned.uscourts.gov  
Courtroom Deputy **Tracy J. Slagle** ..... (402) 661-7410  
E-mail: tracy\_slagle@ned.uscourts.gov  
Court Reporter **Allan G. Kuhlman** ..... (402) 661-7305  
Secretary **Susan M. Spitznagel** ..... (402) 661-7302

**Chambers of District Judge Richard G. Kopf**

586 Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508  
Tel: (402) 437-1640 Fax: (402) 437-1641  
E-mail: richard\_kopf@ned.uscourts.gov

**Richard G. Kopf**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1946  
Education: Nebraska (Kearney) 1969 BA; Nebraska 1972 JD  
Began Service: May 26, 1992  
Appointed By: President George H.W. Bush

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable Donald R. Ross, United States Court  
of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (1972-1974)

**Judicial:** Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the District of  
Nebraska (1987-1992)

**Legal Practice:** Cook, Kopf & Doyle (1974-1987)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American Bar  
Foundation, American Bar Association; Nebraska Bar Foundation; Nebraska  
State Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Laura Hegge** ..... (402) 437-1640  
E-mail: laura\_hegge@ned.uscourts.gov  
Career Law Clerk **James A. Eske** ..... (402) 437-1640  
E-mail: Jim\_Eske@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 1976 JD

**Chambers of District Judge Richard G. Kopf continued**

Career Law Clerk **Janine E. Rempe** ..... (402) 437-5252  
E-mail: Jan\_Rempe@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 1990 JD  
Secretary **Kris Leininger** ..... (402) 437-5252

**Chambers of District Judge Laurie Smith Camp**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 3210, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7323 Fax: (402) 661-7326  
E-mail: laurie\_smith\_camp@ned.uscourts.gov



**Laurie Smith Camp**  
District Judge

Date of Birth: 1953  
Education: Stanford 1974 BA; Nebraska 1977 JD  
Began Service: November 2, 2001  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush  
Political Affiliation: Republican

**Corporate:** Associate General Counsel, First National Bank and Trust  
Company (1977-1978)

**Government:** General Counsel, Department of Correctional Services, State  
of Nebraska (1980-1991); Chief, Civil Rights Section, Department of  
Justice, State of Nebraska (1991-1995); Chief Deputy Attorney General  
for Criminal Matters, Department of Justice, State of Nebraska  
(1995-2001)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Turner & Boisseau (1978-1979); Solo  
Practitioner (1980)

**Current Memberships:** Nebraska Bar Foundation; Nebraska State Bar  
Association; Omaha Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Paula Fritz** ..... (402) 661-7324  
Began Service: 2008  
Term Expires: August 31, 2010  
E-mail: paula\_fritz@ned.uscourts.gov  
Career Law Clerk **Mary Buckley** ..... (402) 661-7325  
E-mail: mary\_buckley@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Creighton 1987 JD  
Court Reporter **Brenda Fauber** ..... (402) 661-7322  
Judicial Assistant **Janet L. Bartels** ..... (402) 661-7323

**Chambers of Senior Judge Warren K. Urbom**

507 Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508  
Tel: (402) 437-1946 Fax: (402) 437-1945  
E-mail: Warren\_Urbom@ned.uscourts.gov

**Warren K. Urbom**  
Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1925  
Education: Wesleyan U 1950 AB; Michigan 1953 JD  
Began Service: 1970  
Appointed By: President Richard M. Nixon  
Political Affiliation: Republican

**Academic:** Adjunct Instructor of Trial Advocacy, College of Law, University  
of Nebraska-Lincoln (1979-1991); Adjunct Instructor of Trial Techniques,  
Emory University (1994-1996)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Baylor, Evnen, Baylor, Urbom & Curtiss

**Military Service:** United States Army (1944-1946)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American College of  
Trial Lawyers; Lincoln Bar Association; Nebraska State Bar Association

**Chambers of Senior Judge Warren K. Urbom continued**

**Staff**  
Law Clerk **Marc Pearce** ..... (402) 437-1940  
E-mail: Marc\_Pearce@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 2000 JD  
Judicial Assistant **Ellen Lefler** ..... (402) 437-1940

**Chambers of Senior Judge Lyle E. Strom**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 3190, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7320 Fax: (402) 661-7318

**Lyle E. Strom**  
Senior Judge

Date of Birth: 1925  
Education: Creighton 1950 AB, 1953 JD  
Began Service: November 1, 1985  
Appointed By: President Ronald Reagan  
Political Affiliation: Republican

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, School of Law, Creighton University

**Legal Practice:** Fitzgerald, Brown, Leahy, Strom, Schorr & Barmettler  
(1953-1985)

**Military Service:** United States Merchant Marines (1943-1946)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Foundation, American Bar  
Association; American College of Trial Lawyers; American Judicature  
Society; International Academy of Trial Lawyers; Nebraska State Bar  
Association; Omaha Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Jennifer Davidshofer** ..... (402) 661-7320  
Began Service: 2008  
Term Expires: 2010  
Law Clerk **Jason Grams** ..... (402) 661-7320  
Term Expires: 2009  
Education: Nebraska 2007 JD  
Secretary **Jean Roeder** ..... (402) 661-7320

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge David L. Piester**

566 Federal Building, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE 68508  
Tel: (402) 437-1670 Fax: (402) 437-1675  
E-mail: piester@ned.uscourts.gov

**David L. Piester**  
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1947  
Education: Nebraska 1969 BS, 1972 JD  
Began Service: January 20, 1981  
Term Expires: January 2013

**Government:** Assistant United States Attorney, District of Nebraska,  
Office of the United States Attorney, United States Department of Justice  
(1979-1981)

**Legal Practice:** Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Society (1972-1973); Legal  
Services Corporation (1975-1977)

**Nonprofit:** Consultant, National Legal Aid & Defender Association  
(1974-1976); Executive Director, Legal Aid of Nebraska (1973-1979)

**Current Memberships:** Federal Magistrate Judges Association; Lincoln  
Bar Association; Nebraska State Bar Association

**Staff**

Career Law Clerk **Cheryl R. Zwart** ..... (402) 437-1670  
E-mail: Cheryl\_Zwart@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Nebraska 1988 JD  
Judicial Assistant **Carol A. Reitz** ..... (402) 437-1670

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge Thomas D. Thalken**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 2271, Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7343 Fax: (402) 661-7345  
E-mail: thalken@ned.uscourts.gov

**Thomas D. Thalken**  
Magistrate Judge

Date of Birth: 1942  
Education: Creighton 1964 BA, 1966 JD  
Began Service: January 4, 1993  
Term Expires: January 4, 2017

**Government:** Assistant United States Attorney, District of Nebraska,  
Office of the United States Attorney, United States Department of Justice  
(1971-1980); First Assistant United States Attorney, District of Nebraska,  
Office of the United States Attorney, United States Department of Justice  
(1981-1993)

**Military Service:** United States Army (1964-1970)

**Current Memberships:** Nebraska State Bar Association; Omaha Bar  
Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Tanya R. Langton** ..... (402) 661-7343  
E-mail: tanya\_langton@ned.uscourts.gov  
Education: Denver 1997 JD  
Secretary **Patricia Vansteenburgh** ..... (402) 661-7343  
Education: Iowa State 1966 BS

**Chambers of Magistrate Judge F. A. Gossett, III**

111 South 18th Plaza, Suite 2210, Omaha, NE 68102  
Tel: (402) 661-7340 Fax: (402) 661-7338

**F. A. Gossett III**  
Magistrate Judge

Education: Creighton 1972 JD  
Began Service: May 29, 2003  
Term Expires: May 29, 2011

**United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nebraska**

Roman L. Hruska U.S. Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza,  
Suite 1125, Omaha, NE 68102  
Tel: (402) 661-7444 Tel: (402) 661-7450 (PACER)  
Tel: (800) 788-0656 (Toll Free PACER) Tel: (402) 661-7457 (VCIS)  
Tel: (800) 829-0112 (Toll Free VCIS) Fax: (402) 661-7492  
Internet: www.neb.uscourts.gov

**Number of Judgeships:** 2

**Court Staff**

Clerk **Diane L. Zech** ..... (402) 661-7444  
Chief Deputy **Eva Roeber** ..... (402) 661-7444  
Deputy-in-Charge - Lincoln **Lisa Marie Smith** ..... (402) 437-1625  
460 Federal Bldg., 100 Centennial Mall N., Fax: (402) 437-1624  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
Director, Information Technology Services (**Vacant**) ..... (402) 661-7444  
Case Administrator Supervisor (**Vacant**) ..... (402) 661-7444  
Budget Analyst **Susanne Bartmess** ..... (402) 661-7444